



Town of Groton, Connecticut

45 Fort Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340-4394
Town Clerk 860-441-6640
Town Manager
860-441-6630

Meeting Minutes

Town Council

Mayor Heather Bond Somers, Councilors Dean G. Antipas, Bruce S. Flax, Bill Johnson, Karen F. Morton, Deborah L. Peruzzotti, Rita M. Schmidt, James L. Streeter, and Harry A. Watson

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

SPECIAL MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by Mayor Somers.

Members Present: Mayor Somers, Councilor Antipas, Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Morton, Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Schmidt, Councilor Streeter and Councilor Watson

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher and Executive Assistant Nicki Bresnayan.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Somers called a recess for the Public Hearing at 7:35 p.m.

2013-0069

Public Hearing on Ordinance Changing and Redefining the Voting Districts

PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE CHANGING AND REDEFINING THE VOTING DISTRICTS IN THE TOWN OF GROTON

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GROTON:

That Section 6-1 of the Code of Ordinances, "Voting Districts", consisting of Ordinance Nos. 105, 212, 217, and 254 adopted by the Town Council on October 2, 1972, February 18, 1992, March 2, 1993 and July 2, 2002, respectively, is hereby repealed, and the following ordinance is hereby enacted in lieu thereof:

1. The following areas shall hereafter constitute the Voting Districts in the Town of Groton and are hereby adopted to conform to the 2011 Plan of Congressional Districting approved by the State of Connecticut Supreme Court on February 10, 2012 and published by the State of Connecticut Secretary of State on February 15, 2012, and to enact other changes to be made hereby by the Groton Town Council pursuant to Town of Groton Charter § 3.7:

FIRST VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at the northeast corner of this voting district at a point at the intersection of the centerline of Flanders Road and the centerline of the southbound lane of Interstate Route 95; thence running southerly with the centerline of Flanders Road to a point at its intersection with the centerline of Fort Hill Road (U.S. Route 1), thence running southerly and westerly with the centerline of Fort Hill Road (U.S. Route 1) to a point at the intersection with the centerline of Fort Hill Brook; thence running southerly with the centerline of Fort Hill Brook to Mumford Cove; thence running southerly with the centerline of Mumford Cove and crossing Fishers Island Sound to the south boundary of the Town of Groton; thence running westerly along the south boundary of the Town of Groton to its intersection with the east boundary of the City of Groton; thence running northerly along the east boundary of the City of Groton through Baker Cove; thence running northwesterly and northerly along the east boundary of the City of Groton through Baker Cove and Birch Plain Creek to an angle point in the City of Groton boundary on the south side of Poquonnock Road; thence running northwesterly along the City of Groton boundary and the south side of Poquonnock Road to an angle point in the City of Groton boundary; thence running northerly along the City of Groton boundary to its intersection with the centerline of Meridian Street Extension; thence running southeasterly and easterly with the centerline of Meridian Street

Extension to Long Hill Road (U.S. Route 1); thence running northwesterly with the centerline of Long Hill Road (U.S. Route 1) to the intersection with the centerline of the southbound lane of Clarence B. Sharp Highway (Connecticut Route 349); thence running easterly with the centerline of the southbound lane of Clarence B. Sharp Highway (Connecticut Route 349) to its intersection with the centerline of the Interstate Route 95 exit 87 southbound ramp; thence running easterly with the centerline of the Interstate Route 95 exit 87 southbound ramp to its intersection with the centerline of the southbound lane of Interstate Route 95; thence running easterly with the centerline of the southbound lane of Interstate Route 95 to its intersection with the centerline of Flanders Road and to the point of the beginning. All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the First Voting District of the Town of Groton.

SECOND VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at the northwest corner of this voting district at a point on the GROTON-NEW LONDON town line; thence running due east to the intersection of Eastern Point Road and Nicholas Avenue; thence running easterly with the centerline of Nicholas Avenue to Benham Road; thence crossing Benham Road to Hynes Avenue and continuing easterly with the centerline of Hynes Avenue to Brandegee Avenue; thence running northerly with the centerline of Brandegee Avenue to Rainville Avenue; thence running easterly and northeasterly with the centerline of Rainville Avenue to Poquonnock Road; thence running southeasterly with the centerline of Poquonnock Road to a point on the east boundary of the City of Groton; thence running southerly along the east boundary of the City of Groton to an angle point in the City of Groton boundary on the south side of Poquonnock Road; thence running southeasterly along the City of Groton boundary to the east boundary of the City of Groton; thence running southerly and southeasterly along the east boundary of the City of Groton through Birch Plain Creek and Baker Cove; thence running southerly along the east boundary of the City of Groton through Baker Cove and Fishers Island Sound to the south boundary of the Town of Groton; thence running westerly along the south boundary of the Town of Groton; thence running northerly along the GROTON-NEW LONDON town line to a point due west of the intersection of Eastern Point Road and Nicholas Avenue and to the point of the beginning. All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Second Voting District of the Town of Groton.

THIRD VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at the northwest corner of this voting district and the northwest corner of the City of Groton; thence running easterly along the north boundary of the City of Groton and the north side of Grove Avenue; thence running southeasterly, southerly and southeasterly along the northeast boundary of the City of Groton to a point in the vicinity of Meridian Street Extension; thence running southerly along the east boundary of the City of Groton on to a point in the centerline of Poquonnock Road; thence running northwesterly with the centerline of Poquonnock Road to Rainville Avenue; thence running southwestly and westerly with the centerline of Rainville Avenue to Brandegee Avenue; thence running southerly with the centerline of Brandegee Avenue to Hynes Avenue; thence running westerly with the centerline of Hynes Avenue to Benham Road; thence crossing Benham road to Nicholas Avenue and continuing westerly with the centerline of Nicholas Avenue to Eastern Point Road; thence running due west to the GROTON-NEW LONDON town line; thence running northerly along the GROTON-NEW LONDON town line to the northwest corner of the City of Groton and to the point of the beginning. All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Third Voting District of the Town of Groton.

FOURTH VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at the northwestern corner of this voting district running along the GROTON-LEDYARD town line to the intersection of North Road (Connecticut Route 117); thence running southerly with the centerline of North Road (Connecticut Route 117); thence running westerly with the centerline of the southbound lane of Interstate Route 95 to its intersection with the Interstate Route 95 exit 87 southbound ramp; thence running southwestly with the centerline of the Interstate Route 95 exit 87 southbound ramp to its intersection with U.S.

Route 1; thence running southeasterly with the centerline of U.S. Route 1 to the intersection of Meridian Street Extension; thence running westerly and northwesterly with the centerline of Meridian Street Extension to its intersection with the easterly boundary of the City of Groton; thence running northerly and northwesterly along the northeast boundary of the City of Groton to a point on the north side of Grove Avenue; thence running westerly along the north boundary of the City of Groton to the GROTON-NEW LONDON town line; thence running northerly along the GROTON-NEW LONDON town line and the GROTON-WATERFORD town line to its intersection with the GROTON-LEDYARD town line and to the point of the beginning. All Areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Fourth Voting District of the Town of Groton.

FIFTH VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at the northeast corner of this district and the northeast corner of the Town of Groton at a point in Hyde Pond; thence running southerly along the GROTON-STONINGTON town line through Whitford Brook and the Mystic River to its intersection with the centerline of the south bound lane of Interstate Route 95; thence running westerly with the centerline of the south bound lane of Interstate 95 to its intersection with the centerline of Connecticut Route 117; thence running northerly with the centerline of Connecticut Route 117 to its intersection with the GROTON-LEDYARD town line; thence running easterly along the GROTON-LEDYARD town line to the point of beginning. All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Fifth Voting District of the Town of Groton.

SIXTH VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at the northeast corner of this voting district at a point where the centerline of the south bound lane of Interstate Route 95 crosses the GROTON-STONINGTON town line in the Mystic River; thence running southerly along the GROTON-STONINGTON town line through the Mystic River to a point southeasterly of the railroad bridge over Beebe Cove; thence running northwesterly through the railroad bridge over Beebe Cove to a point in Beebe Cove west of Half Penny Island; thence running northerly in Beebe Cove to a point in line with the prolongation southeasterly of the centerline of Fishtown Road; thence running northwesterly with the prolongation of Fishtown Road, crossing Beebe Cove, the shore and Elm Street (Connecticut Route 215) to Fishtown Road; thence running northwesterly and northerly with the centerline of Fishtown Road to its intersection with New London Road (U.S. Route 1) and Noank Ledyard Road; thence running northerly, northeasterly and northerly with the centerline of Noank Ledyard Road to its intersection with the centerline of the south bound lane of Interstate Route 95; thence running easterly with the centerline of the south bound lane of Interstate Route 95 to the GROTON-STONINGTON town line and to the point of the beginning. All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Sixth Voting District of the Town of Groton.

SEVENTH VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at a point on the GROTON-STONINGTON town line southeast of the railroad bridge over Beebe Cove; thence running southerly along the GROTON-STONINGTON town line to the south boundary of the Town of Groton; thence running westerly along the south boundary of the Town of Groton to a point south of Mumford Cove; thence running northerly along the centerline of Mumford Cove to Fort Hill Brook; thence running northerly along the centerline of Fort Hill Brook to its intersection with the centerline of Fort Hill Road (U.S. Route 1); thence running easterly with the centerline of Fort Hill Road (U.S. Route 1) to the intersection of Flanders Road; thence running northerly along the centerline of Flanders Road to its intersection with the centerline of the south bound lane of Interstate Route 95; thence running easterly with the centerline of the south bound lane of Interstate Route 95 to its intersection with the centerline of Noank Ledyard Road; thence running southerly, southwesterly and southerly with the centerline of Noank Ledyard Road to its intersection with New London Road (U.S. Route 1) and Fishtown Road; thence running southerly and southeasterly with the centerline of Fishtown Road to its intersection with Elm Street (Connecticut Route 215); thence running southeasterly along the

prolongation southeasterly of the centerline of Fishtown Road, crossing Elm Street (Connecticut Route 215), to the shore and Beebe Cove; thence running southerly in Beebe Cove to a point west of Half Penny Island and northwesterly of the railroad bridge over Beebe Cove; thence running southeasterly in Beebe Cove through the railroad bridge to the GROTON-STONINGTON town line and to the point of the beginning. All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Seventh Voting District of the Town of Groton.

2. Changes to Districts One, Four and Five have been made as required by the 2011 Redistricting Plan enacted by the State of Connecticut.

3. By vote of the Groton Town Council, the former Districts Four and Five have been combined. The resulting district will henceforth be known as District Four.

4. By vote of the Groton Town Council, a portion of District 8 has been combined with District 1.

5. Districts Six, Seven and Eight have been renumbered to reflect the combining of Districts Four and Five. Henceforth, District Six will be known as District Five; District Seven will be known as District Six; and District Eight will be known as District Seven.

Heard at Public Hearing

The Notice of Public Hearing pursuant to a resolution passed by the Town Council was read by Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher.

There being no citizens who wished to speak, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m.

III. NEW BUSINESS

The Mayor called a recess at 7:37 p.m. for Committee of the Whole consideration of Items #2013-0073 and #2013-0071.

The meeting resumed at 7:49 p.m.

2013-0073

Adoption of an Ordinance Changing and Redefining the Voting Districts

ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE CHANGING AND REDEFINING THE VOTING DISTRICTS IN THE TOWN OF GROTON

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GROTON:

That Section 6-1 of the Code of Ordinances, "Voting Districts", consisting of Ordinance Nos. 105, 212, 217, and 254 adopted by the Town Council on October 2, 1972, February 18, 1992, March 2, 1993 and July 2, 2002, respectively, is hereby repealed, and the following ordinance is hereby enacted in lieu thereof:

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northerly along the east boundary of the City of Groton through Baker Cove; thence running northwesterly and northerly along the east boundary of the City of Groton through Baker Cove and Birch Plain Creek to an angle point in the City of Groton boundary on the south side of Poquonnock Road; thence running northwesterly along the City of Groton boundary and the south side of Poquonnock Road to an angle point in the City of Groton boundary; thence running northerly along the City of Groton boundary to its intersection with the centerline of Meridian Street Extension; thence running southeasterly and easterly with the centerline of Meridian Street Extension to Long Hill Road (U.S. Route 1); thence running northwesterly with the centerline of Long Hill Road (U.S. Route 1) to the intersection with the centerline of the southbound lane of Clarence B. Sharp Highway (Connecticut Route 349); thence running easterly with the centerline of the southbound lane of Clarence B. Sharp Highway (Connecticut Route 349) to its intersection with the centerline of the Interstate Route 95 exit 87 southbound ramp; thence running easterly with the centerline of the Interstate Route 95 exit 87 southbound ramp to its intersection with the centerline of the southbound lane of Interstate Route 95; thence running easterly with the centerline of the southbound lane of Interstate Route 95 to its intersection with the centerline of Flanders Road and to the point of the beginning. All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the First Voting District of the Town of Groton.

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SEVENTH VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at a point on the GROTON-STONINGTON town line southeast of the railroad bridge over Beebe Cove; thence running southerly along the GROTON-STONINGTON town line to the south boundary of the Town of Groton; thence running westerly along the south boundary of the Town of Groton to a point south of Mumford Cove; thence running northerly along the centerline of Mumford Cove to Fort Hill Brook; thence running northerly along the centerline of Fort Hill Brook to its intersection with the centerline of Fort Hill Road (U.S. Route 1); thence running easterly with the centerline of Fort Hill Road (U.S. Route 1) to the intersection of Flanders Road;

thence running northerly along the centerline of Flanders Road to its intersection with the centerline of the south bound lane of Interstate Route 95; thence running easterly with the centerline of the south bound lane of Interstate Route 95 to its intersection with the centerline of Noank Ledyard Road; thence running southerly, southwesterly and southerly with the centerline of Noank Ledyard Road to its intersection with New London Road (U.S. Route 1) and Fishtown Road; thence running southerly and southeasterly with the centerline of Fishtown Road to its intersection with Elm Street (Connecticut Route 215); thence running southeasterly along the prolongation southeasterly of the centerline of Fishtown Road, crossing Elm Street (Connecticut Route 215), to the shore and Beebe Cove; thence running southerly in Beebe Cove to a point west of Half Penny Island and northwesterly of the railroad bridge over Beebe Cove; thence running southeasterly in Beebe Cove through the railroad bridge to the GROTON-STONINGTON town line and to the point of the beginning. All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Seventh Voting District of the Town of Groton.

2. Changes to Districts One, Four and Five have been made as required by the 2011 Redistricting Plan enacted by the State of Connecticut.

3. By vote of the Groton Town Council, the former Districts Four and Five have been combined. The resulting district will henceforth be known as District Four.

4. By vote of the Groton Town Council, a portion of District 8 has been combined with District 1.

5. Districts Six, Seven and Eight have been renumbered to reflect the combining of Districts Four and Five. Henceforth, District Six will be known as District Five; District Seven will be known as District Six; and District Eight will be known as District Seven.

A motion was made by Councilor Streeter, seconded by Councilor Schmidt, that this matter be Adopted and Referred to the Representative Town Meeting, due back on April 10, 2013.

Motion to veto is the only appropriate action.

The motion carried unanimously

2013-0076

Public Hearing on Small Cities Community Development Block Grant 2013 Application

RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT 2013 APPLICATION

RESOLVED, that the Town Council will hold a public hearing on the Town of Groton's Small Cities Community Development Block Grant 2013 Application on Tuesday, April 2, 2013, at 7:30 p.m., at Town Hall Annex, Community Room 1.

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Flax, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2013-0071

Emergency Election Procedures

APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 9-174a requires the registrars of voters to create an emergency contingency plan for elections, primaries and referenda, and

WHEREAS, the plan shall include solutions for ballot shortages and strategies to implement in the event of emergency situations delineated by the statutes, and

WHEREAS, the statutes require that the plan remain on file with the Town Clerk and that amendments be approved by the Town Council, and

WHEREAS, Groton's Registrars of Voters, David Rose and Kristen Venditti, have prepared a document entitled "Town of Groton Emergency Election Procedures," now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the "Town of Groton Emergency Election Procedures" as presented on March 12, 2013.

A motion was made by Councilor Antipas, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

The Mayor called a recess at 7:51 p.m. for Committee of the Whole consideration of Item #2013-0074.

The meeting reconvened at 7:53 p.m.

2013-0074

Resolution Authorizing Use of a Description of the Ordinance Changing and Redefining the Voting Districts

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING USE OF A DESCRIPTION OF THE ORDINANCE
CHANGING AND REDEFINING THE VOTING DISTRICTS IN LIEU OF THE COMPLETE
TEXT IN NOTICE OF ADOPTION

WHEREAS, the Town Council has adopted an "Ordinance Changing and Redefining the Voting Districts in the Town of Groton," and

WHEREAS, Section 5.5.6 of the Town Charter provides for notice of the adoption of an ordinance to be published in the newspaper, and

WHEREAS, at the direction of the Town Council, a description of the ordinance prepared by the Town Attorney may be substituted for the complete text of the ordinance in the notice of adoption publication, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the use of a description of the "Ordinance Changing and Redefining the Voting Districts" in lieu of the complete text in the notice of adoption of the ordinance.

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Streeter, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

IV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti and so voted unanimously.

Attest:

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council*